

Maryville  
R-111

April 29, 2009

Ms. JoAnna Gullion  
717 South Mulberry Street  
Maryville, MO 64468

Dear Ms. Gullion,

Enclosed is a copy of district policy and the process we use if there are concerns about a book or instructional materials. Also, you will find a form to complete and return to either Mrs. Dempsey or me.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Vickie H. Miller, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

CC: Kevin Pitts  
Principal, Maryville Middle School

**PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**  
(Complaint or Concern to the Board)

Complaint or Concern Initiated by: Allen & JoAnna Gullion  
Address: 717 S. Mulberry  
City: Maryville State: MO Zip code: 64468 Telephone: 562-0057  
Complainant Represents: ☒ Himself/Herself ☐ Student ☐ Organization (specify):

What is your complaint? Use full names, dates and exact occurrences, if appropriate. Attach additional pages if necessary. It's about the book "Word Need" by Susan Nielson that is at the Middle School Library for kids to check out. This book was new at the school this past school year "08/09". We feel this book is inappropriate because of the content, language, & the way this 12 year old boy expresses himself which we find to be vulgar.

Check the levels of school administrative units with whom you have discussed this complaint:

☒ Teacher/Staff Member ☐ Principal ☐ Department Director ☒ Superintendent/Designee  
☐ Other (specify):

What response have you received from these different administrative levels? Mrs. Dempsey feels this book is good & that it's about a 12 year old boy that is just expressing how he really feels. Mrs. Miller has followed all policies by sending me forms like this to fill out.

What action would you like the Board to take? We feel that the best thing would be for this book or books to be removed or restricted to certain age students. This book we feel is not good for an 11 yr. old to read.

The Board reserves the right to defer and redirect complaints that have not been investigated to the appropriate administrative level(s).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Note:** The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or procedures for related information in this administrative area.

Received 7-13-09

# MARYVILLE R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

1429 South Munn Avenue, Maryville, MO 64468

Phone 660-562-3255

Fax 660-562-4113

[www.maryville.k12.mo.us](http://www.maryville.k12.mo.us)

July 23, 2009

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gullion  
717 South Mulberry Street  
Maryville, MO 64468

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gullion:

At their meeting on Wednesday, July 22, the Maryville R-II Board of Education considered your request to remove or restrict the library book Word Nerd. After reviewing your complaint, the Board voted to continue to make the book available for check-out in the Maryville Middle School library without restrictions.

We appreciate the active part you play in your children's education and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Vickie Miller, PhD  
Superintendent

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MARYVILLE R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Maryville, Missouri

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, July 22, 2009

Place of Meeting: Administration Building

Members Present: William S. Sims, President; Elaine Wilson, Vice-President; Roger Baker, James Beemer, David Boyles, Jason Haer, and Sean Wiedmaier

Present: Dr. Vickie H. Miller, Superintendent of Schools; John Zelif, Assistant Superintendent; Kenna Parman, Secretary; Steve Klotz, Principal, Eugene Field Elementary School; Kevin Pitts, Principal, Maryville Middle School; Thom Alvarez, Assistant Principal, Maryville High School; and Debbie From, Director, ACES

Others Present: R-II Staff Members: Ron Wilson, Mindy Scadden

Alexandra Helzer, Brooke Assel, Caitlin Bocquin, Julie Neer, Adam Walz, Emily Felton, Walter Redden, and Anthony Donahoo

\*\*\*\*\*

I. CALL TO ORDER.....President Sims called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Seven members of the Board of Education were present. The Secretary was present and performed the duties of that office. Notice of the meeting had been duly posted.

\* VI. Patron Communications

A motion was made by Roger Baker and seconded by James Beemer to accept the Maryville Middle School committee's recommendation to retain the library book without exception. The motion carried 7-0.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda

Item VI. Patron Communications was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

B. Minutes of Regular Meeting and Executive Session June 17, 2009 - as written.

C. Financial

1. Operating Statement - June, 2009, balance \$5,422,306.56.
2. Activity Accounts - June 2009, balances totaling \$212,081.58.

D. Comprehensive Assessment & Evaluation Plan

1. Adult Education and Literacy
2. Summer School
3. Data Reporting

The assessments of these programs were reviewed.

E. Set Date for Public Hearing on 2009-10 Budget and Levy - 7:00 p.m. on August 19, 2009

The annual tax rate hearing will be held on August 19, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. before the regular Board meeting.

F. Student/Parent/Staff Handbooks for 2009-10 - as presented.

G. 2009-10 Horace Mann Band Agreement

Approval of the Horace Mann Band Agreement. (A copy of the agreement is attached to the record copy of these minutes.)

Dr. Miller reviewed the consent agenda items and recommended approval. A motion was made by David Boyles and seconded by Elaine Wilson to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

